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of the physical characters of igneous rocks, their mode of occurrence, structure, texture, and composition. In Part II some seventy pages are devoted to mineral descriptions, and in the back of the book are four pages of tables to be used for the determination of the common rock minerals. The usefulness of this part of the work would be greatly increased if it contained a colored plate showing the maximum birefringences of minerals for various thicknesses of plates. It is presumed that the student has a knowledge of optics. Part III is devoted to the classification of igneous rocks, the method being essentially the qualitative system now in use. Part IV devotes about one hundred pages to the distribution of igneous rocks of Great Britain. This part of the work is illustrated by many text figures and is a brief summary of the petrography of the British Isles. The work is well arranged and includes much useful data. The American student of igneous rocks could wish for a rather more comprehensive treatment of differentiation, magmatic stopping, and related subjects; with a brief résumé of the quantitative system of rock classification, the use of which is increasing on this continent.

W. H. E.

The Ephemeral Volcanic Island in the Iwôjima Group. By T. WAKIMIZU. Publication of the Earthquake Investigation Committee in Foreign Languages, No. 22, Section C, Art. 1. With Plates I-XII. Tôkyô, 1908.

The island appeared February 1, 1905, three nautical miles east of M. Iwôjima. It was three miles in circumference, 480 feet in height and contained about 200 acres in area. The lava was of the olivine-augite-andesite type resembling closely that of Mt. Pipe in Iwôjima. From its geographic position and nature of ejecta it seemed clear that the ephemeral island was a volcano belonging to the same volcanic line as the three principal volcanic islands of the Iwôjina group. On June 16, 1905, the island had almost disappeared. The cause of submergence was attributed to the erosive action of the waves and possibly to depression of the crater rim.

C. J. H.

Formation of Geodes with Remarks on the Silicification of Fossils. By RAY S. BASSLER. From the Proceedings of the United States National Museum, Vol. XXXV, pp. 133-54, with Plates XVIII-XXIV. Washington, 1908.

The author finds in his study of the formation of geodes in the Keokuk geode beds and in the shales and limestones of the Knobstone division of the

Mississippian that their origin is often traceable to a beginning in fossils. The geodes are invariably found in or near joint planes and rifts along which waters have had easy passage. A large majority of the geodes in the Knobstone may be traced to an origin in a fractured crinoidal stem or brachiopod shell. In all the specimens described deposition of silica in the fractures has been preceded by a complete silicification of the fossil itself. The crystallizing force of the addition of silica in the fracture continues to rupture the fossil more and more which later forms a typical geode.

The author maintains that the replacement of the original calcareous material of fossils by silica in siliceous pseudomorphs does not take place at the time of deposition of sediment, but rather that silicification proceeds as weathering advances. It has been observed that limestones yielding siliceous pseudomorphs contain in the unweathered portions calcareous fossils. The embedded part of the fossil is often calcareous while the exposed part is siliceous. From these lines of evidence he concludes that silicification of many fossils is a present process.

C. J. H.

Mineral Resources of the Philippine Islands. By WARREN D. SMITH,
Chief of the Division of Geology and Mines. 39 pp., 6 pls., map.
Manila, 1908.

This bulletin marks the beginning of an annual statement of the mineral production of the islands. The plan adopted is similar to that of the U. S. G. S.

The nonmetallic products are first considered. A low-grade, sub-bituminous coal, suitable as a gas-producer, is mined. It is abundant, but coal-mining is difficult owing to complex folding and faulting. Some of the mines are promising. A good quality of lime is manufactured at Binan-gouan. Raw materials for the manufacture of cement are abundant. The limestone is very free from magnesia. Mention is made of natural gas, petroleum, building and monumental stone, abrasives, gypsum, phosphates, sulphur, salt, magnesite, mineral waters, Fuller's earth, mica, manganese, and precious stones. The brick, tile, porcelain, and pearl industries are of little importance.

Gold is the only metal now mined to any notable extent. A profitable mine is worked in Benguet. Deposits of copper, silver, lead, iron, and tellurium occur, but are not actively mined.

Production in 1907: gold, 4,540 oz., silver, 83 oz., iron, 436 tons, coal, 4,545 tons.

C. J. H.